

That One who notices the falling of a sparrow, who even numbers the hairs of our head, had not ordained that such should be their constant fate. In 690 John, Bishop of Hagulstad, demonstrated clearly that they were capable of receiving instruction. In 1550 they were taught in Spain. While more or less attention was given to the education of deaf mutes from this time forward, it remained for America to take the lead in this department, as she has in so many others. In 1815, an interest was manifested in this direction, emanating from Hartford, Connecticut. It assumed practical shape in sending the Rev. Thos. H. Gallandet, a highly cultivated clergyman, to Europe to become familiar with the means of accomplishing the purpose they had so much at heart. On reaching Edinburgh, he found, to his great disappointment, that the methods were known only to a few who considered it a great mystery which they refused to impart except upon conditions which he could not accept. Going thence to London, he providentially met Sicard, who was then the Principal of an Institution for deaf mutes in Paris, and who, having learned the object he had in view, took great interest in him and invited him to accompany him home and learn his methods. He went, and after remaining three months, returned to the United States, in company with Clerc, one of Sicard's brightest pupils, whom he had induced to become a missionary to the mutes of America. In 1817, the "American Asylum for Deaf Mutes" was opened in Hartford, with seven pupils. There exist, at the present, sixty-one years later, forty-nine institutions, with a total of 6,166 pupils. Truly may it be said that this has been a wonderful century: wonderful for the vast improvement of the internal condition of the people; wonderful in the rapid strides made toward the perfection of mechanism; wonderful for literary and scientific advancement; but far more wonderful for the grand revolution of thought and feeling on the subject of educating